28th November, 2002. In this system, some old air corridors have been deleted and about 20 new air corridors have been introduced. The new routes cover the entire Bay of Bengal, Landmass of India and a large portion of Arabian Sea.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Indian Air Force (IAF) have not agreed to introduce new routes to link Jalalabad with Samar near Amritsar overflying Hindon and Ambala Local Flying Areas and Jabalpur to Rahimyar Khan in Pakistan overflying Jodhpur Local Flying Area of IAF. Therefore, the new routes have been re-aligned within the civil airspace.

Removal of anomalies in time table of IA and Alliance Air

146. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to remove anomalies in time table of Indian Airlines and Alliance Air flights as regards connectivity from Delhi to different stations of Assam like Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Silchar, Tejpur and others *via* Guwahati; and

(b) if so, whether CD 7891 would be extended upto Jorhat and Dibrugarh from Guwahati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Silchar is at present linked with Delhi by Alliance Air's connecting flights to/from Guwahati and Kolkata.

Jorhat, Dibrugarh and Tezpur are connected with Delhi by Indian Airlines/Alliance Air flights to/from Kolkata. Shortage of aircraft capacity and scheduling constraints do not permit connectivity of these stations with Delhi *via* Guwahati and extension of CD 7891 operating on the sectors Delhi/Patna/Guwahati upto Jorhat and Dibrugarh.

Discount on domestic fares by AI

147. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent move by Air India to reduce the airfares on domestic flights is only for a short time;

(b) if so, for what period this reduction in airfare would be valid; and

(c) whether Air India would be able to sustain the expenses incurred on domestic flights keeping in view the heavy losses it has already incurred in the past?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) The recent move by Air India to reduce the domestic airfares was in response to the APEX fares filed by the other domestic carriers. This will be valid until further notice.

(c) Most of the domestic sectors on Air India are an extension of international flights. Competitive domestic fares help to fill up seats on domestic legs, which otherwise would have operated empty. These domestic sectors are a source of additional revenue for Air India.

Concessional airfares to holiday travellers

148. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines, Air Alliance and Air India announced concessional air fares for holiday travellers this year;

(b) if so, the details of the concessions and the fares offered; and

(c) how far (giving percentage) they were successful in capturing/cornering the holiday-air-travel fares collections *vis-a-vis* private air operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Air India has introduced off-season holiday packages to boost inbound tourists to India as well as to improve seat factors on the Gulf/India and UK/Europe/India routes during the lean season. Air-India holiday packages were introduced in the Gulf and Middle East from March 15, 2003 and are valid till September 30, 2003 with a black out period from June 25, 2003 to July 15, 2003. These holiday packages cover two destinations *viz.* Goa and Kerala. The duration of holiday packages for Goa is 3 nights 4 days and for Kerala is 6 nights 7 days. The special fares for these holiday packages are approximately 20% lower than the current